

## LMHC Information Sheet # 9

### Description of colour-change in gemstones

- Definitions
- Report wording

Members of the Laboratory Manual Harmonisation Committee (LMHC) have standardised the nomenclature that they use to describe colour-change gemstones and alexandrite.

#### Definitions:

<b>Colour-change:</b>	main hue in daylight differs from that seen in incandescent light.
<b>Daylight:</b>	for the purposes of this comparison calibrated daylight corresponding to a range between <b>5500K to 6500K</b> shall be used.
<b>Incandescent light:</b>	for the purposes of this comparison standard incandescent light corresponding to a range between <b>2700K and 3600K</b> shall be used.
<b>Alexandrite:</b>	a chromium bearing variety of chrysoberyl showing a colour-change.

#### Report wording:

##### A) Any colour-change gemstone shall be described as:

Description:	
Colour:	<b>[colour]<sup>3</sup> in daylight, [colour]<sup>3</sup> in incandescent light</b>
Identification:	
Group <sup>1</sup> :	<b>[group]<sup>3</sup></b>
Species:	<b>(natural)<sup>1</sup> [species]<sup>3</sup></b>
Variety:	<b>(natural)<sup>2</sup> colour-change [Species/Variety]<sup>3</sup></b>

##### B) Any alexandrite shall be described as:

Description:	
Colour:	<b>[colour]<sup>3</sup> in daylight, [colour]<sup>3</sup> in incandescent light</b>
Identification:	
Species:	<b>(natural)<sup>1</sup> chrysoberyl</b>
Variety:	<b>(natural)<sup>2</sup> alexandrite</b>

Note: All treatments applied to the above gemstones shall be noted.

<sup>1</sup> wording and text in parenthesis is optional

<sup>2</sup> text in parenthesis is optional and shall only be used for natural untreated stones

<sup>3</sup> text in brackets represents a place holder